

Transportation & Infrastructure Summit

JULY 28, 2021 | VIRTUAL

Chris Johnson
Director of Economic Development
Johnston County

As director of the Johnston County Economic Development, Chris Johnson coordinates with the Department of Commerce, Economic Development Partnership of NC, Site Consultants, and other public and private agencies on issues regarding economic development, community development, growth management legislation, and regional planning. Chris serves as Chair for the Research Triangle Regional Partnership (RTRP) EDAC group.



During his 8-year tenure, Chris has directed nearly \$4 Billion dollars of new and expanded industry investment and over 3,000 jobs in Johnston County. Those projects include: Grifols Therapeutics, Novo Nordisk, Berry Global, 3C Packaging, OPW, Dollar General, Ashley Homestore, Berry Plastics, and most recently Amazon's \$100M expansion in Smithfield.

In May of 2021, Chris was recognized by Business North Carolina Magazine in their "Power List" of North Carolina's Most Influential Leaders.

From 2000 to 2013, Chris served as executive director of the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation.

Originally from Jackson, NC, and graduate of East Carolina University, Chris is married to the former Kim Gower of Smithfield. Together they have 2 Children (Quinton - 25 and Caroline - 22). They are owners of Jewel's Formals in downtown Smithfield and have been in business for over 30 years.